

STATINTL

AGENCY HEAD PROMISES 'CAREFUL' PROBE

Secret Papers, Missing Gems Stir CIA

CIA Director Richard M. Helms today promised a "very careful" investigation of charges that a high-ranking expert in clandestine affairs had classified documents in his Georgetown home, that another CIA employee removed them and that, subsequently, he discovered \$20,000 worth of his wife's jewelry missing.

The expert, Hans V. Tofte,

said he will meet today with some top CIA officials.

HINT

"An old friend of mine, who is a very high official, has asked me to see him and I will. That's all I can say," he said.

Mr. Tofte and Mr. Helms reportedly were close friends until Mr. Tofte opposed Mr. Helms' recent appointment as director on grounds a

professional CIA man should not head the agency.

Mr. Helms, who rather irritably asked, "Are you interested in our disciplinary processes?" said he would see Mr. Tofte "in due course."

"The whole matter will have to be gone into very carefully and I don't intend to answer any more questions about it."

CIA's latest controversy was stirred up when another CIA man, Kenneth R. Slocum, and his wife on July 23 visited Mr. Tofte's home at 1667 35th-st nw, which a Georgetown real estate dealer had purchased and advertised for sale or rent.

Mr. Tofte and the J. C. Chatel real estate agency said Mr. Slocum — who CIA said did not know of Mr. Tofte's CIA connections — was looking for a basement apartment but Mr. Tofte's 86-year-old mother-in-law showed him the entire house, it was reported.

LUCK

The CIA said Mr. Slocum "by chance" noticed some classified material. Mr. Tofte said this material was wrapped and under a tarpaulin in a third-floor study.

CIA said Mr. Slocum, of 2811 P-st nw, reported this to the agency and the following day the Slocums and Charles D. Speake, of 4570 MacArthur Blvd., nw, a security officer, returned, were admitted by Mr. Tofte's mother-in-law and "took custody of the material."

FIRST FLOOR CLOSET

Mr. Tofte later noticed the jewelry missing from a first floor closet, reported it to CIA which told him to notify police. He did.

Mr. Tofte said CIA staged a "silly cloak and dagger raid" on

his home, and he was outraged. He said it was customary for CIA men of his standing — he reportedly earns \$25,000 — to take papers home to work on them.

He said the agency could well have waited outside his home until he had returned home, and then asked him to get the documents. Instead, he said, they distracted his mother-in-law while ostensibly looking at the house, and picked them up.

- CIA Director Richard Helms today promised a "very careful" investigation of charges by a top CIA official that fellow employees snooped about his Georgetown home and that, subsequently, his wife found \$20,000 worth of her jewels were missing. All very mysterious.